



NUUSLETTER

The Newsletter of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church
always available online at www.hvuuc.org

The mission of Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church is to promote spiritual growth, religious freedom, and ethical action.

November 2021

PO Box 8383 Johnson City, Tennessee 37615 (423) 477-7661

Headlines

- [Online Service Auction November 11th -13th](#)
- [Walking with the Minister November 6th](#)
- [RE Fellowship November 20th](#)
- [Capital Repairs Funds](#)
- [Reopening Update](#)

Up to date church info is always available at www.hvuuc.org

Zoom Services

It has been a joy to interact with you more during our live zoom services each Sunday.

We appreciate your grace and patience as our staff and volunteers adjust to this new format and continue to perfect our mastery of this exciting new opportunity to connect.

While perfection may not be possible, connection is our true goal.

For up-to-date information and relevant zoom links please visit:
<https://hvuuc.org/worship-services>

Recordings of the zoom services will also be available afterwards on our YouTube channel at [HVVUUC YouTube](#)

Upcoming Virtual Church Services

11:00AM Sundays at [HVVUUC YouTube](#)

November 7th—*The History of this Place*, Rev. Sapp
176 years ago, Larkin Ford and four other slaves fought a legal battle to gain their freedom and the land that their former owner willed them. The land is just a few acres from where our building sits now. Today, we explore the fascinating history of this place.

November 14th—*Lessons from the Pandemic: Empty Shelves and Beyond*, Michelle Treece

Local educator and community organizer Michelle Treece offers us a talk about the 'unexpected lessons' she learned from living in a pandemic saying, "Covid-19 gave us an opportunity to open our eyes to other concerns we may not have considered otherwise."

November 21st—*Spoons, Forks & Sporks*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp
Each of us has a finite amount of energy. Spoon theory, originating in conversations about justice and compassion for people with invisible disabilities, can help us understand our priorities and our limitations.

November 28th—*There Is More Joy Somewhere*, Rev. Tiffany Sapp

Did you know that joy, laughter, and pleasure are essential for the world changing work that we are doing as Unitarian Universalists? It sounds kind of self-serving, but the only way that our work is going to be sustainable, is if we take care of ourselves in deep ways. Adrienne Maree Brown's "Pleasure Activism" has a lot to say about this.

HOLSTON VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
ONLINE SERVICE AUCTION
NOVEMBER 11 - 13, 2021

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED NOW!
More details under "events" at hvuuc.org
Email auction@hvuuc.org with any questions

Message From the Minister

The challenges of the current time hit differently for the immunocompromised than they do for those with cooperative immune systems. It's different for the insured versus the uninsured. It's different for the senior citizen versus the college student. It's different for those with young children at home versus those with grown children versus those with no children. It's different depending on your financial resources, and your job, and a million other factors. The truth is that we don't know what each person going through, and what resources they have at their disposal. Which is why I prefer to assume that everyone is doing the best they can right now.

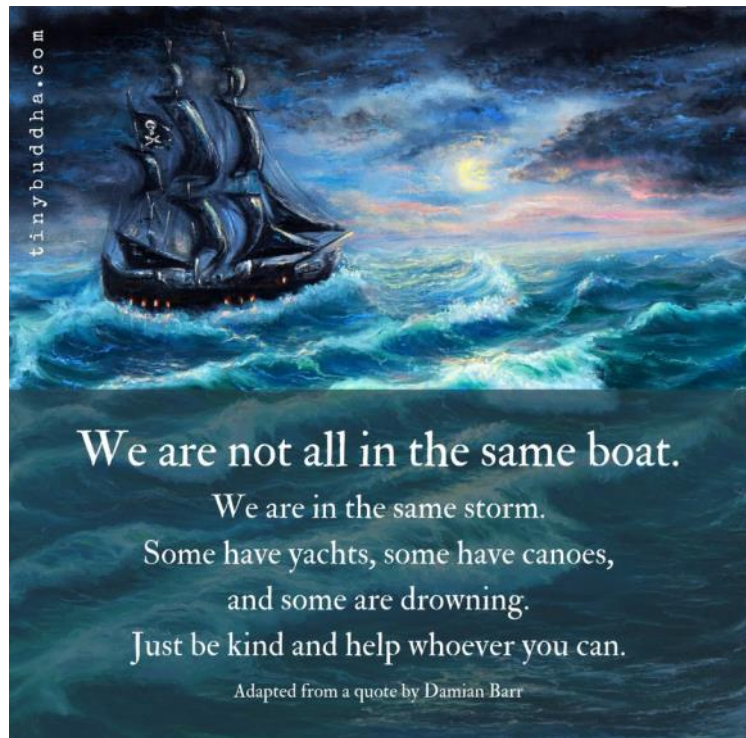
We are in the same storm but not in the same boat.

Back when this all began, one of my favorite UU minister-poets, Sean Parker-Dennison, wrote a reflection that played with the concept of "apocalypse." After decades of being in the zombie-apocalypse fandom, a concept of apocalypse that requires compassion and cooperation was a beautiful way to subvert the trope of fighting each other to survive. In this poem I see an invitation to lash our boats together as we continue to weather this storm:

How to Survive the Apocalypse

First, learn to listen.
Not only for enemies around
corners in hidden places,
but for the faint footsteps
of hope and the whisper of resistance.
Hone your skills, aim your
heart toward kindness and
stockpile second chances.
Under the weight of destruction,
we will need the strong shelter
of forgiveness and the deeper wells
that give the sweet water of welcome:
"We have a place for you."
When the world ends, we must not
add destruction to destruction,
not accept a beggar's bargain,
to fight death with more death.
In order to survive the apocalypse—
any apocalypse at all—
we have to give up
the counterfeit currency of self-
sufficiency, the mistaken addiction
to competition, the lie that the last
to die has somehow survived.

Rev. Tiffany,
minister@hvuuc.org



Fall Service Auction November 11 - 13

It's time to start thinking about what you'll donate to our service auction this year!

The auction is all online and will begin on Thursday, November 11 and end on Saturday, November 13.

All donations and bidding will be done using the Auctria website. You can go there to donate items now and bid on items when bidding begins. You will also be able to bid using the Auctria mobile app on your phone.

Auction Items Needed Now!

You are encouraged to donate items that can be redeemed during the next year, assuming the same social distancing safety guidelines are in place next year that we are following this fall.

Pandemic Task Force recommended items:

- Baked goods/Preserves/etc.
- Soup/Casserole/Bread — monthly for _x_ months
- Delivery/pickup arrangements flexible
- Murder Parties (they involve 8 people, and mostly sitting in one place)
- Tutoring —on line or in person
- Yard work
- Handy work
- Hand made Jewelry/Pottery/Fabric item
- T-shirt/Sweatshirt Memory Quilt — winner provides the shirts
- Pet sitting
- Dinner and a Movie (limit 10)
- Dinner and a Campfire
- Gently used items like nice clothing, tools, kitchen
- Appliances/equipment
- Art or craft project
- Hiking
- Kayaking
- Pool party? Of course all observing social distancing.
- Vacation rentals

You can go to:

www.auctria.com/auction/2021HVUUCaution
now and start entering those donations!

Email auction@hvuuc.org with any questions.

Social Justice

Social Justice is a cornerstone of Unitarian Universalism. We are inviting new members to help us carry the load of social justice initiatives including:

- Feeding the Poor and Hungry
- Supporting LGBTQIA+ Initiatives
- Healing the Environment
- Participating in the Black Lives Matter Movement
- Battling White Supremacy

And Much More!

Contact Bob Warner at socialjustice@hvuuc.org to step into Love in Action!



Families, save the date!

**Saturday, November, 2021
12:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Eastman Recreation Center
Shelter #12**

Rev Tiffany and RE will be hosting an outdoor art activity on November 20th from 12:30-3:30 at Eastman Recreation Center Shelter #12.. We are looking forward to having a socially distanced outdoor event that is safe for our unvaccinated children.

We will be making holiday ornaments, enjoying fellowship, and of course...SNACKS. Bring your families and join us!

Please RSVP for the event so we know how many are coming. [Click here to register.](#)

Contact dre@hvuuc.org with any questions.

What is happening with Religious Education?

Fall is upon us, and is an exciting time for our Religious Education program!

Our Youth Group met for the first time since Covid-19 hit our region to create their characters for Dungeons and Dragons. It was beautiful to observe our youth thoughtfully construct the imaginative and magical beings they will use for the rest of the youth group year.

It was so wonderful to see all of you at Grand Oak Farm on October 23rd! RE handed out over 400 pieces of candy! Seeing our children running around, playing, and showing off their costumes was just what our hearts and souls needed.



Donations
needed to
replenish
Capital
Repairs
Fund

Capital Repairs Fund



MORE DETAILS
UNDER "NEWS"
AT HVUUC.ORG

The Church needs your help!

Due to a large expenditure, our Capital Repairs Fund is getting very low. This is the money budgeted for use for big repair projects. Projects like roof repairs, driveway repair, painting and repairing the sanctuary, and fixing the HVAC.

Please send donations to the church with "Capital Repairs Fund" in the memo line. Thank you for your support. This is a critical Fund that keeps the church in good repair.



Walking with the Minister

Join Rev. Tiffany for a hike to the Flint Creek Battle Site at Rocky Fork State Park. On **Saturday November 6th** at 10am we will meet at the Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park parking lot. It is approximately a 2 mile (round trip) moderate hike over a path that is level and paved with gravel. Several bridges will be crossed. Bring water and snacks and expect to stop a few times. Kids are welcome as long as they're willing to walk.

Email minister@hvuuc.org so that we know you're coming, or for more information.

Directory Update



An up-to-date version of our church directory is located in the [members area](#) of our website.

Please take a moment to download the most recent version and be sure your information is correct. If a change is needed, email the office at office@hvuuc.org with the relevant details.

You can also email the office if you need the password to unlock the members area of the website.

Please remember your pledge.

Make checks payable to "HVUUC."
Write "pledge" in the memo.

Mail to:
HVUUC
PO Box 8383
Gray, TN 37615



Thank you!

Please continue your support of the church by completing your intended pledge for this fiscal year. We still have the mortgage, electric, internet/phone bills to pay. To honor our commitments all paid staff will continue to be paid during this time.

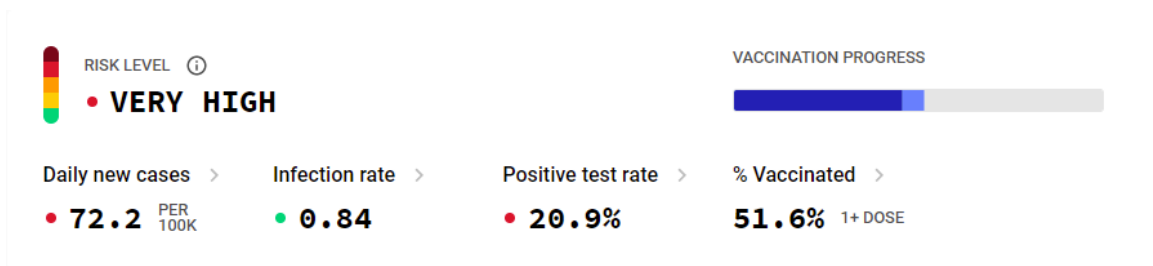
The best way to donate at this time is by check. Electronic donations are also possible via Paypal at <https://hvuuc.org/donate> but they take a small percentage of each transaction, so the church will not receive your entire donation.

Mail to: **HVUUC PO Box 8383 Gray, TN 37615**
Write "pledge" in the memo line. Thank you!

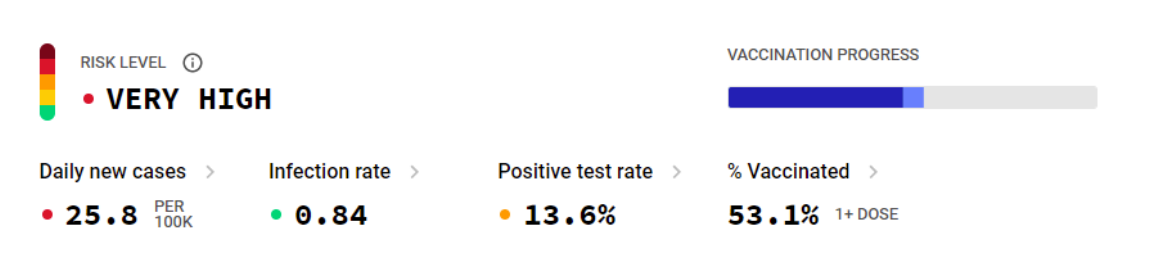
REOPENING UPDATE

Our congregation's Sunday Services are currently 100% online because our region is still in the Severe Risk (Red) category. A partial reopen that contains both an in-person and a zoom option for Sunday services will be an option only after our entire region has been in the Medium Risk (Yellow) category on covidactnow.org for thirty days.

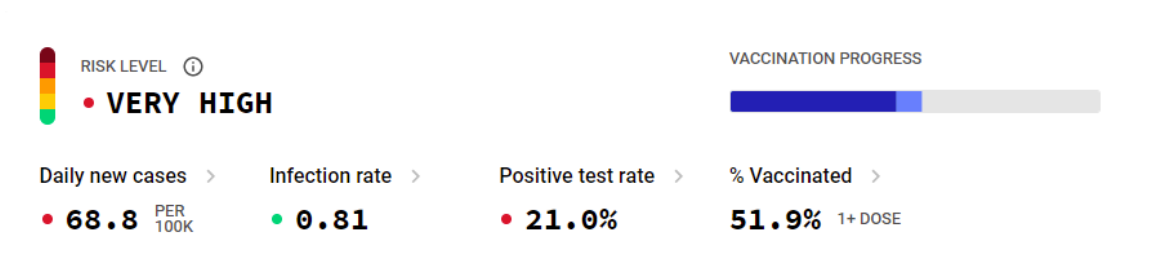
Kingsport Metro Area - September 2021



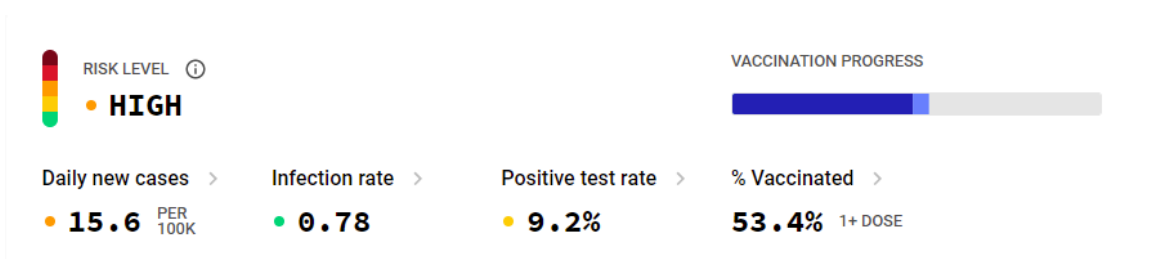
October 2021



Johnson City Metro Area - September 2021



October 2021



For full details about our Congregation's Reopening Plan please visit: <https://hvuuc.org/reopening-plan> and click on the link to the Reopening Plan.

Membership

Caring Team

Good day to all from the Caring Team:
Coordinator for October was Joy B. -Thank you!

November coordinator is Freda L.
We continue to search for new members, if interested please email caring@hvuuc.org

Kitchen of Hope

If you would like to help, please consider donating either money or food items that can go in a lunch bag. We serve once a month, but the Kitchen of Hope serves 6 nights a week.

To donate money:

Mail a check to - HVUUC PO Box 8383, Gray, TN 37615 memo: Kitchen of Hope

Via Paypal - <https://hvuuc.org/donate> (please indicate it is for Kitchen of Hope)

To donate food: Contact Kim at KOH@hvuuc.org

Website Member Log In

There is information on the website that you need to log in to see. Scroll to bottom of the home page and click on "Members Area". If you need the password, email office@hvuuc.org.

Once you log in, you can get a recent member directory, read the board policies and procedures and board meeting minutes, and get a reimbursement form or our tax exempt certificate.

Grocery Cards Available for Purchase

Food City and Ingles grocery cards are available and can be mailed or delivered to you!

Cards can be delivered to mailboxes in the Johnson City or Kingsport area, and possibly to others areas. Of course, the cards could also be mailed.

We will happily accommodate your needs so that we can continue to generate a wee bit of income for the church.

If you are interested, please contact Dottie and Richard at grocerycards@hvuuc.org.

Thank you for continuing to participate!

2021-2022 Board of Trustees

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Charis Carter musicdirector@hvuuc.org

Office Administrator

Jessica Bowman office@hvuuc.org

Submissions for each month's newsletter are due by the last day of month to newsletter@hvuuc.org.

Up to date information can always be found at www.hvuuc.org